

Web Chat Transcript – Student Visas – December 9, 2010

MODERATOR: Thank you for joining us. The web chat will begin in a few minutes.

MODERATOR: Welcome to the Student Visas web chat!

Abhinab Bhakta Kharel: What are the actual requirements for a student VISA?

US EMBASSY PAS: There are three requirements for a student visa. The applicant must demonstrate that they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education.

Abhinab Bhakta Kharel: If I take a student's loan here and apply for the VISA... Will I get it?

US EMBASSY PAS: Students must prove that they have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of their education. These sources of income can come via regular income, scholarships, loans, etc. However, the Consular Officer does need to believe that it is a credible source of income to be able to issue the visa. Please also keep in mind that you must also demonstrate the intent to be a real student and the intent to depart the US after you complete your studies.

Anjan Karmacharya: What type of questions do the consular officers ask during visa interview?

US EMBASSY PAS: To be able to issue a visa, Consular Officers need to determine 3 things: 1) that the applicant has the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) that the applicant has the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) that the applicant has credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. Consular Officers will ask questions during the visa interview to determine these 3 points.

Diganta: Those who don't have higher academic qualifications in their study can't be able to go in US through student Visa or not?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: As long as you are accepted by a credible university or college and can demonstrate that you have a serious intent to be a student you can qualify for a visa.

Abhinab Bhakta Kharel: My father's annual income is enough for completing my Bachelor's in USA.. Despite I was rejected for the VISA twice saying that the income was not credible? What are the actual requirements for the VISA?

US EMBASSY PAS: There are three requirements for a student visa. The applicant must demonstrate that they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. Consular Officers are aware of the general salaries for various incomes in Nepal and they evaluate whether or not the claimed income presented at the interview is credible.

Abhinab Bhakta Kharel: Is it compulsory that one needs scholarship to study in USA?

US EMBASSY PAS: No, it is not compulsory. However, it is compulsory that to receive a visa, the applicant must demonstrate that they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. One of the best ways to demonstrate that you can credibly pay for your education is to have a full scholarship.

laxman:If i am selected for admission in usa universities without tofel or ilets ,can i get visa from embassy?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:As long as have been admitted to an American educational institute, the Consular Officer is not going to evaluate if you have taken any certain tests. Rather, the Consular Officer is going to evaluate if you have the intent to be a real student in the United States.

xyz:how can i get scholarships in the us?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:Ask the universities you are interested in about their scholarship programs. Also, USEF (The U.S. Education Foundation), is a good resources for helping plan your college or university education.

Bikash:If I've been offered sufficient stipend to meet my expense in I-20 sent by the University, what types of financial documents so I requires to bring during Visa interview and how much bank balance I should have.

US EMBASSY PAS:If you have a full scholarship, there is no need to submit financial documents. You especially do not need to show us a bank balance. We have no requirements regarding bank balances, and often student visa applicants bring falsified bank documents to show a bank balance. This is not necessary and can really hurt the applicant. We take document fraud very seriously and will inform applicants with falsified or fraudulent documents that they can pick up their passports from the police.

Raju Shrestha:Is Visa counselor already decide to issue visa or reject or it depend on interview?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:The consular officer uses the interview to determine if the applicant has real intent to be a student and to see if there are credible sources of income to pay for the course of study and if there is intent to depart after the studies have been completed. All of these issues are decided during the course of the interview and not before.

Nimu Regmi:hello, I would like to know what are the chances of getting a visa in a community college?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:The requirements for receiving a visa are the same, regardless of which educational institute you have chosen. If you are applying for a community college, ensure that you are able to speak about why you prefer to go to a community college. This will help the Consular Officer determine your intent.

Bikash:What type of documentation is required if want to apply for F1 visa for me and F2 visa for my spouse and a child?

US EMBASSY PAS:For the F1 visa, only 2 documents are required: 1) the original I-20 and 2) academic transcripts. For the F2 visa, you must submit marriage certificates and birth certificates. The Consular Officer may also request other information to help determine if the relationship is real, such as photos.

Ghanshyam:I am currently persuing my undergraduate in the United States, the problem is I lost my passport and I am planning to come to Nepal and reapply for the visa. What documents do I need to bring? Can you give me some additional informations regarding that process?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:Bring your new passport, your I20, and your transcripts.

Bikash:I've been accepted for admission in PhD program and offered the yearly stipend sufficient to meet my total expense along with that of my spouse and a child. I'd like to know shall we apply for the visa for all of us now or is it appropriate to apply for F1 visa for me alone now and apply for F2 visa for my dependents 6 months/1 year after I get admitted in the University?

US EMBASSY PAS: It is up to you and your family to decide when your dependents should apply for the F2 visa. The requirements to receive the F2 visa remain the same, regardless of if the spouse is already in the US or is applying for the F1 visa at the same time.

tsering: what are the financial documents we have to show from my own?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: Financial documents are not required to obtain a student Visa. However, you should be able to explain how your family receives income. You may submit documents if you wish but remember the most important part of your application is your interview.

guest: what are the documents to be submitted along with the application?

CONSULAR OFFICER 4: Yes, it is certainly possible. There are only 2 required documents for a student visa interview: 1) the original I-20 and 2) academic transcripts. No financial documents are required and are only considered supplemental to what is discussed in the interview. If you have a full scholarship, there is no need to submit financial documents.

Bikash: Does visa application for the dependents of a student interfere with the chance of obtaining student visa for the student?

US EMBASSY PAS: No, the Consular Officer adjudicates the F1 visa first and will adjudicate it according to the same regulations for all F1 visas.

kami sherpa: To study in USA which side do I have to show more financial support from parents or sponsor?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: There are no requirements as to where you receive your financial support. The Consular Officer must be able to determine that you have credible sources of income to cover the entire length of your education. They also must be convinced that the sponsor has a credible reason for wanting to pay for your college education.

urmila 2: since if once we are rejected due to financial, how can we increase property or source of income?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: That will be difficult. Your focus should be on getting a good scholarship or choosing a college or university that is more affordable.

Aakash Lamichanne Gurung: my application has been rejected twice. I am a full time student here studying at Prime College. What should I do to ensure you that I am and will study in the United States?

CONSULAR OFFICER 4: There are three requirements for a student visa. The applicant must demonstrate that they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. If you have already been refused twice, you must demonstrate that your situation has significantly and credibly changed since your last visa interview.

laxman: Without TOEFL or IELTS, is there any possibility of getting student visa?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: Intent to be a real student is a requirement for issuance of a student visa. Many schools require TOEFL or other language tests to be admitted. If your school requires this, then yes, it is necessary. If the school does not require it, then it is not necessary, but it is harder to show that there is real intent to be a student in the US.

urmila: Why are we rejected for financial reason lots of time though we are good at academics and also those who don't have good financial and show fake, they have gone to USA nor they have good academics?

US EMBASSY PAS: There are 3 requirements for obtaining a student visa and all 3 requirements must be met. Even if a student visa applicant is an excellent student, if the Consular Officer believes that they cannot afford the full course of the education, they will not be able to receive the visa.

pradip: is their high chances of getting visa when applied for university as compared to community college

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: No. As long as the school has provided you with an I-20 it does not matter if it is a university or community college. But remember, whatever school you chose, you should be able to talk about WHY you chose that particular school. There are over 3000 universities in America. You should have a genuine reason why this particular one is the best fit for your needs.

Binod Katuwal: Respected Sir, I am Mr. Binod Katuwal from Kathmandu, I have applied twice for Student Visa for August 2009 session but was rejected twice showing the reason that my Sister is already in United States with her student Visa. Though we have sufficient Fund and property but I was rejected. We have an annual income of equivalent to approximately 51000 US dollar. Though I am a diligent student who wants to get an American degree and after getting my degree I have a hope to serve my country. But my dreams were not fulfilled. So would you please tell me the solution that how I can get an American degree? Is there won't be any chances to get student Visa for the two members to study in United States though there is sufficient fund with us? And in my condition my sister is already studying there securing good marks. I hope you will give me proper suggestion? Thank you..

US EMBASSY PAS: It is possible to receive a student visa if there are already siblings of the student visa applicant studying in the US. However, the applicant must show that they have credible sources of income to pay for their entire cost of education. If these sources of income are already paying for 1 college education in the US, the applicant must show that the sources of income can afford both college educations.

tsering: what financial documents are required for applying a student visa?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: We don't require financial documents since documents in Nepal are unreliable. Our process is based on the interview. If you have financial documents you can bring them but please don't manufacture them or buy them--fraudulent documents will automatically disqualify you and we know which are real and which are fake.

tsering: Do the documents sent from our sponsor from USA need to be notarized or will they have to fill I-134 form if they are sponsoring me?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: No, none of the financial documents have to be notarized and an I-134 form is not required. In fact, no financial documents are required for the interview - they are all supplemental to support what is discussed in the interview.

kami sherpa: I would like to know what documents I need from my sponsor to study in USA

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: You need to be able to show credible sources of income to be able to pay for the entire course of study in the US. It is up to you to present evidence of sources of income to pay for this. The documents need to be legitimate documents that show you can afford the school. If they are just produced for the visa interview, they are very not credible documents.

tsering: what will be the plus point for getting the visa?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: The most beneficial thing you can do for yourself is to be honest. Do not try to inflate your family's income or hide siblings. As soon as a consular officer believes that you are lying about something - even a small thing - your interview will be over and you will not get the visa.

Shekhar Dhungana:Good Afternoon Sir...I want to go USA for my pilot training in weight shift control aircraft(also known as sport flying).How can I apply sir?

US EMBASSY PAS:For pilot training, you want to apply for an M1 visa. The requirements for an M1 visa are very similar to applying for an F1 visa. You need to demonstrate that you have 1) intent to be a real student in the pilot training program in the US, 2) intent to depart the US upon completion of your program and 3) credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the training.

guest:what is the minimum educational qualification for apply?

US EMBASSY PAS:You must have been accepted to an educational institute in the United States and must have received an I-20. Each educational institute has different minimal education requirements.

guest:is any age limitation is there to apply the student visas?

US EMBASSY PAS:No, there is no age limit. However, you must demonstrate that you have the intent to be a real student in the US and that you intend to depart the US upon completion of your studies. For older applicants, demonstrating intent includes being able to discuss why they plan to return to school and how this fits into their long-term plan and/or career goals.

guest:how long time to be needed to complete the processing for visa?

US EMBASSY PAS:If you receive a student visa, you can expect to pick up the visa within 2 business days of your interview.

Roshan khadka:What are the process for the journalist to get visa in ameirca ?

US EMBASSY PAS:This webchat is for student visas only. For journalists, it depends on the purpose of the trip. You may email consktm@state.gov if you have further questions.

ali:what are the chances of getting visa when applied for second time ?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:If you can demonstrate the three criteria (student intent, adequate finances, and plans to return to Nepal) you can qualify.

tsering:what financial documents we have to make while applying for the student visa and how much money do we have to show?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5:You do not need to show any financial documents to receive a student Visa. If you do submit documents they must be genuine in order for you to qualify. DO NOT artificially inflate bank balances or submit fraudulent statement to try to increase your chances of getting a student visa. You will not get the visa and your case will be handed over to the police.

Rukmina Subba:Hi I'm Rukmina Subba from eastern Nepal. I want to finish my post graduate from US. So what are the terms & conditions for visa? And how can I apply for scholarship?Regards,Rukmina

US EMBASSY PAS:There are three requirements for a student visa. The applicant must demonstrate that they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. We cannot answer the question as to how to apply for a scholarship as this is not our purview; however, we encourage all student visa applicants to pursue scholarship opportunities as this will help you be able to show us that you can afford the education.

Diganta:Is that true the student visas in first chances are rejected in this sense to collect more revenue from applicants to run the embassy expenses?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:No, this is not correct. Consular Officers are adjudicating visas according to US law. The only reason that an applicant does not receive a visa is if they are not qualified for one. In fact, we discourage applicants from re-applying unless there is a significant and credible change in the circumstances.

jitesh:I haven't done any scholastic test like GRE,GMAT,so is it that necessary if i don't want scholarship?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:GRE, GMAT and other entrance exams are used by the schools for entry decision and scholarship decisions. If you are accepted and can afford the school without a scholarship, then you can still get a visa. Often a scholarship is helpful for the applicant to be able to afford the school. If there are no credible funding to pay for the school, then the visa will not be approved.

Diganta:Would i be able to study in American university or not although i don't have highest mark in my subject?

US EMBASSY PAS:We do not determine the ability to study in the United States. If you are accepted to an American educational institute, you must demonstrate to the Consular Officer that you have the intent to go there and be a real student.

tsering:if i have two sponsors from us ,do i need to show documents from both the sponsors or not?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:Yes, from both sponsors--especially if they are not immediate family members.

kopila thapa:hi im kopila thapa im planning to study in US but lots of my friends told me that it is very difficult to get visa from you ,so i want to know that what are the criterias to get visa from you.what sorts of education provider in US are really focused on education. would you please answer my question. thanks for such a great programme that makes you so transparent .

US EMBASSY PAS:There are three requirements for a student visa. The applicant must demonstrate that they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. We cannot answer which education providers in the US are focused on education, as this is not our purview. However, we do recommend that you consider why you want to study at a particular educational institute prior to your visa interview.

avijit pandey:during interview what thing matters the most??

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:During the visa interview, the only thing that matters is that the applicant is able to demonstrate that they qualify for the visa. This includes being prepared to speak knowledgeably about your educational institute and academic program, and be able to speak credibly about your financial resources.

Binod:How long is the visa valid for (incase of a student visa) for tentative Graduate Study in a US university?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5:F-1 student visas are valid for 60 months from the date of issuance (5 years). A visa allows you to travel to a port of entry and apply for admission to the United States. For student Visa holders, once you are admitted to the country as a student you are considered "in status" as long as you are still a full time student.

MODERATOR:We have a lot of people submitting questions and our consular officers are working hard to answer as many as we can. If your question hasn't been answered yet, please be patient. Thank you!

guest:i am a master of sociology from Tribhuvan University of Kathmandu, Nepal. I like to start further study in us, i am illigable or not?

US EMBASSY PAS:Only the Consular Officer at the time of the interview can make the determination on if you are qualified for a student visa.

Prabesh Lal Joshi:I was refused last time stating that my financial documents are fake. Can I re apply with other documents.?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:You may always re-apply. We will never refuse your application. However, if you presented fake documents during the first interview, it may be difficult for you to convince the Consular Officer that your current documents are genuine and that you are a credible applicant.

ravi:I have several years gap after intermediate now i want to study further more is it possible for me to get us student visa

US EMBASSY PAS:One of the 3 requirements for obtaining a student visa is to demonstrate that you have the intent to go to the US and be a real student. If you have a gap in your education, you still may be able to demonstrate intent but you must be able to speak about why you want to go back to school and how this fits into your long-term plan, as this will help to demonstrate your intent.

Raju Shrestha:What had happen when documents are submitted during interview?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:Before the interview, the documents are reviewed to make sure they are real documents. Then, when the visa officer interviews the applicant, they will review it and see if it is credible and if it supports visa issuance. The documents are returned after the interview unless they are fraudulent in which case they are retained and given to the police.

sulav:if i dont have a scholarship than what will be the chances of getting visa for graduate study in US?

US EMBASSY PAS:For both undergraduate and graduate study, the requirements remain the same: There are three requirements for a student visa. The applicant must demonstrate that they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. If you do not have a scholarship, you must demonstrate that you have other credible sources of income that can pay for the entire cost of your education.

Nischal Shrestha:I am applying for a F1 student visa and my uncle and my parents are sponsoring me for my studies. We are a joint family and have a family business which is registered under my uncle's name. Will there be any problem for me?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5:At your interview you should be able to clearly and concisely explain your family's financial situation. If a relative is sponsoring you you should be able to explain WHY they would sponsor your education.

Guest:My wife has an F-2 visa and she was supposed to visit US back in September 2010. Due to some family issues, she could not leave Nepal then, and she's still in there. Now, she is ready to come to the US during my winter break and she's wondering if she would be good with her six-months old visa (which is valid for 5 years) as far as immigration concerns in the port of entry. Thank you very much!

US EMBASSY PAS:The visa must be valid at the time that the visa holder attempts to enter the United States. This means that the visa must not have expired prior to the date the visa holder attempts to enter the US. If your wife's visa has expired, she must apply for a new one.

avijit pandey:do the students having good acadamic backgroud get plus poin durin the interview??

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: There are no "plus points", but a student with a good academic background will have an easier time demonstrating that they have the intent to be a real student in the US.

tsering: does my documents sent from my sponsors in USA need to be notarized?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: Supporting documents do not need to be notarized. It is not a requirement. What is a requirement is that they are real documents and the people writing them really intend to support you, if that is the case.

sulav: I applied for student visa for MBA program in 2009. I was rejected for 4 times though my documents were genuine. The reason was I won't be able to afford the cost. I had shown assets to cover my living and tuition fee for a year. What could be the reason? Most of the people are rejected with the same reason "YOU DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO AFFORD THE COST".

US EMBASSY PAS: Simply showing documents that show that you have enough money to pay for the education is not enough to receive a student visa. The student visa interview is not a document review, it is an interview, so the applicant must be prepared to respond to the Consular Officer's questions in the interview. The financial documents are only supplemental documents to support what is discussed in the interview. The Consular Officer must determine if the sources of income discussed in the interview are credible and able to cover the entire cost of the education (not just one year.)

Prabesh Lal Joshi: Does the previous rejection of student visa affect for the next interview?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: Yes. You have a higher hurdle to overcome. The Consular Officer will want to know what has changed in your circumstances that has compelled you to reapply. You need to be able to speak convincingly about what is different and why you are reapplying--not merely that you got rejected and are reapplying. We need to see some significant and compelling changes.

pradip: I was rejected once and do I have to transfer SEVIS before interviewing second time?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: If you are applying for the same school, you do not need to transfer SEVIS. If you are applying for a different school, you do need to transfer your SEVIS fee (but you do not need to pay again - the fee will transfer for free.)

sachin: If anybody is rejected for more than once then does it become as a disadvantage for an applicant?

US EMBASSY PAS: US law is very strict and the requirements for a student visa have not changed in many years. Therefore, if an applicant has already been rejected and there have been no significant and credible changes in their situation, there is no ability for the Consular Officer to make a different decision. If there have been significant and credible changes in the situation, then the Consular Officer will evaluate these changes in light of the 3 requirements needed to obtain a student visa.

Nimu Regmi: For a University that costs about 26000, how much bank balance do we need to show?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: Showing income on a document and genuinely having that level of income are two separate things. The consular officer must be convinced that your family has credible sources of income to support your chosen program of study. Do not submit fake or inflated bank balances. Simply be prepared to talk about how your family receives income.

Binod: Is it possible to get the visa without showing the financial documents if I have been awarded with the full scholarships from a US university? Please help.

US EMBASSY PAS: Yes, it is certainly possible. There are only 2 required documents for a student visa interview: 1) the original I-20 and 2) academic transcripts. No financial documents are required and are

only considered supplemental to what is discussed in the interview. If you have a full scholarship, there is no need to submit financial documents.

pradip:why embassy rejects most student showing their income source is not good though they are deserving the american degree?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:Consular Officers must evaluate if a student has credible sources of income to pay for the entire length of their education. They do not evaluate whether or not a student deserves to go to school in America as this is not required by US law. Consular Officers are simply adjudicating visas according to US law.

Binod:How many times can a person re-apply for the visa in a year or one-session?

US EMBASSY PAS:A person may re-apply for a visa as many times as they want; there is no limit. However, US law is very strict and does not change. Consular Officers are required to follow US law. Thus, unless there is a significant, credible change in the applicant's situation, most likely the decision will remain the same.

Ghanshyam:Currently i go the University of Central Missouri, USA. I lost my passport last summer. I am coming to Nepal for this December break. When i reapply for the visa, should i have to have the financial documents.

CONSULAR OFFICER 5:You never have to have financial documents to apply for a student visa. However, if you are a returning student please do bring your current transcript so that the consular officer can confirm that you are a real student in America.

sudip:How student visa is different from other visa types?

US EMBASSY PAS:There are many different visa types to the United States, including both non-immigrant visas and immigrant visas. A student visa is a non-immigrant visa for bona fide students that allows a person to study in the United States. A student visa is not an immigrant visa, and the visa holder must depart the United States upon completion of their studies. A student visa is also not a work visa, and the visa holder may only work on a student visa under the allowed circumstances.

jitesh:Last time i was rejected saying that my academics are not good but this time i have collected 2 years work experience in my field i.e-as a software developer working in reputed organization as well as in government office,so is it sufficient?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:Academics are one factor used to decide whether a student is a real student or not. Work experience and other factors, such as being able to clearly describe why you want to pursue a certain degree, are also helpful in judging student intent. The question is whether or not you really want to be a student in the US, or you just want to go to the US.

bipila:what are the conditions that can reject the person applying for F2 visa

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:The requirements for an F2 visa are: 1) must have a qualifying relationship to the F1 visa holder (ie: you must really be married to the person, or must really be their son or daughter); 2) demonstrate the intent to depart the US after the F1 visa holder finishes their course of study and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for all of the F1 expenses and all F2 expenses, for the entire length of the education

Nimu Regmi:Besides showing that we have to return to our country because of our parents and our property, what else can be the proof to show that we really intent to return in Nepal?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: There could be a multitude of reasons: social, economic, familial, etc... Each person has different circumstances. Only you know what would compel you to return. Your reasons though have to be credible, you can't just make up something.

tsering: if i have two sponsors, do i need to show documents from both the sponsors or not? Will there be a problem if i have two sponsors from USA?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: You need to be able to show that you have credible sources of income to cover your entire course of study. How you show this is up to you.

tsering: will that be a problem if i apply to US while i am doing my undergraduate here in Nepal?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: No, this is just fine - in fact, it shows that you are already a real student in Nepal. You must be prepared, however, to speak about why you want to stop studying in Nepal and start studying in the US and you must still demonstrate the intent to depart the US upon completion of your studies and your ability to pay for everything.

rabs: we all know the economic status of Nepalese students and involvement of students in US to meet their college and allied expenses. In this regard, do you still think property to meet the expenses are vital to issue visa?

US EMBASSY PAS: To issue a student visa, the Consular Officer must be convinced that the student has credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of their education. Typically, property is not considered to be a source of income, unless there is a steady (and credible) income stream stemming from the property.

tsering: what do you mean by credible sources of income?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: As consular officers we are aware of average levels of income for different professions in Nepal. For example if an applicant tells us that a cold store in Banskot makes \$72,000 USD per year, we know that this is not a credible source of income. Please be honest in your documents and your interview.

uma: How can we know if someone is banned from entering the USA, if it doesn't say that in the letter given to reject and revoke the visa? Also, if my husband who is in USA sponsors me for my visa, does my past record affect the sponsored visa decision?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: You may contact the Consular Section if you want to determine if you have any visa ineligibilities. If your husband living in the US is sponsoring you for the visa, it will be very difficult to overcome the presumption of immigrant intent.

Sandesh Krishna SHRESTHA: Can anyone apply for the scholarship who is under graduate in Nepal?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: Yes, anyone can apply.

Puspa Neupane: I didn't show my elder sister in my Relationship certificate, but when the counselor asked me about my sister I told him that I did have an elder sister. I think this was the only reason he rejected my visa. I would like to know what should I do?

US EMBASSY PAS: There are only 3 requirements for a student visa. The applicant must demonstrate that they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. Additionally, there are only 2 required documents: 1) the original I-20 for the school you have selected and 2) academic transcripts. A "relationship certificate" is not required for the student visa interview.

tsering:will there be a problem if we are running our undergraduate and applying for student visa?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:Your course of study must make logical sense to the visa officer. If you are in the middle of your undergraduate studies, and you have to start over somewhere else, that does not make much sense. If the school you are applying to will give you some credit for the classes you have already taken, that makes more sense.

Gokarna:recently i am here in australia but i would like further study in USA so what i have to do for the visa .

US EMBASSY PAS:You may apply for a student visa from any Consular post in the world. The requirements remain the same, regardless of your location.

Anjan Karmacharya:I am Anjan Karmacharya and I applying for visa for January session. My toefl and sat score are low. How does it affect my visa interview?

US EMBASSY PAS:The Consular Officer must be convinced that you intend to be a real student in the US. One way to demonstrate student intent is via past performance (such as good TOEFL and SAT scores), but this is not the only way to demonstrate intent. The Officer may ask you why your scores are low, so be prepared to discuss both your scores and your student intent.

Tarani Prasad Chaudhary:why showing enough income doesn't meet the criteria of visa according to visa officer.

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:It needs to be credible income. If you tell us your family has a kirana pasal and can afford a \$20,000 / year university, that is NOT credible.

Gita:Can a student who got rejected in student visa, apply for F2 if she gets married to another student with F1? Does her previous visa rejection affect her visa chances this time if her intention is just to go and stay with her husband and support him?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:Every case is different and it is up to the Consular Officer at the time of the interview. The Consular Officer will evaluate the F2 applicant on his/her qualifications for an F2. One of these qualification include the intent to depart the US upon completion of the F1's studies. The previous F1 refusal may or may not influence the decision.

Tarani Prasad Chaudhary:even if us embassy know most of the neplese cannot afford american tution fee, why they issue visa?????

CONSULAR OFFICER 5:Visas are issued to qualified applicants only. It is an unfortunate fact that most Nepalese applicants for student visas do not qualify. However, the U.S. is determined to have qualified students from all over the world study in our country.

Sudan:what kind of document i need to prepare for my process to USA?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:you need an I-20 form from the school that you are accepted to in the US, credible evidence that you have sources of funding for the entire course of study and be able to describe why you are pursuing these studies.

Prabesh Lal Joshi:By fulfing all the above given 3 requirements still the student is rejected. Why is that

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:It is likely the student thought he/she fulfilled the 3 criteria but in reality they haven't demonstrated it to the Consular Officer.

nj:I am concerned about the bank balance to be shown during the visa interview?Is there any rules that determines the bank balance to be shown??Thanks

US EMBASSY PAS: Thank you for asking this question! Very often we hear students insist that due to their "bank balance", they are qualified for the visa. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to clear this up: there is NO rule regarding the bank balance. First off, Consular Officers are not looking to see if the applicant has money in the bank. Rather, they are looking to see if the applicant has credible sources of income that will continue to create income throughout the entire length of the applicant's education. Additionally, no bank documents or financial documents are required for the student visa interview. The only required documents are 1) the original I-20 and 2) academic transcripts. Any financial documents that are submitted are considered supplemental documents to support what is discussed in the interview. If financial documents are submitted, they will be evaluated to determine if they are credible and real documents. If they are found to be fake or falsified documents, the applicant will be informed that they can pick up their documents and passport from the police.

tsering: what are the documents required to apply for student visa?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: You need an I-20 form from the school that you are accepted to in the US, credible evidence that you have sources of funding for the entire course of study and be able to describe why you are pursuing these studies.

Subash Limbu: My I20 has been delayed so I wanted to ask what I can do to get an interview date now?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: You need to wait until you have your I20.

Aakash Lamichanne Gurung: Also on what criteria are the student visas given, I really don't understand, please if you can tell me what should be met for my visa application. Thank you

US EMBASSY PAS: There are three requirements for a student visa. The applicant must demonstrate that they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. Consular Officers are aware of the general salaries for various incomes in Nepal and they evaluate whether or not the claimed income presented at the interview is credible.

Sandesh Krishna SHRESTHA: I need to ask about the scholarship process for DV selectee?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: There is no scholarship process for a DV selectee, so I'm not sure what you are referring to here.

prabhat K Tiwari: According to the university I should reach there by Jan 4 but I think it will be late. What should be done by university for delay? Will US embassy care about this?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: You will need to see if the university will extend your I-20. Even if you are determined to be qualified for the visa, we cannot issue a visa if the arrival date on the I-20 has already passed. Many universities are willing to extend this date, so please speak with your school.

Nimu Regmi: I would like to know about the chances of getting a visa in a community college.

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: If you can adequately articulate why you want to go to a community college rather than a 4 year college or university there shouldn't be a problem. You need to be able to speak convincingly about why you made that choice.

prabhat K Tiwari: Dear sir, my I-20 has not been arrived yet. I think it will be coming up to Dec 17. Are there any provisions for interview to any urgent case like mine?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: Only after you receive your I-20 may you apply for the student visa interview. You must still pay the visa application fee and receive your interview date from Nabil Bank. However, if

you need an expedited appointment, please email consktm@state.gov to request one. Expedited appointments are approved on a case-by-case basis, but student visa applicants are given priority.

user:Is it necessary to change the document after getting rejected once?

US EMBASSY PAS:There are only 2 required documents: 1) original I-20 and 2) academic documents. All of the other documents, including financial documents, are not required and are considered supplement to what is discussed in the student visa interview. However, all documents must be genuine and credible. If you change the documents after receiving a rejection, the Consular Officer will not believe that the documents are credible. No documents should be created solely for the purpose of the student visa interview. We take document fraud very seriously – if we determine a document to be fraudulent or falsified, we will inform the applicant that they can pick up the documents and their passport from the police.

Subash Limbu:since i don't have my I20 now i am not able to have a date for interview,and all the date untill dec 19 has been reserve can i have an interview date before dec 19 if i get my I20 on dec 15?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:if you need to request an expedited interview, you need to schedule your interview and then email consktm@state.gov and give the reason why you need an earlier interview date.

Jay:can i apply for Phd in us after complition of M.sc. from nepal.

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:Yes.

basanta lamsal:can i apply from the australia?

US EMBASSY PAS:You may apply for a student visa from any Consular post in the world. The requirements remain the same, regardless of your location.

sushila luitel:Can a student with A level subject mathematics and General paer only can apply

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:Yes. As long as you have been accepted by a credible university and have an I20.

kami sherpa:Il have sponser who is willing to pay for all my expenses study in US Do I still have to show from financial s upport from my perents also or not

CONSULAR OFFICER 5:You never have to submit financial documents for a student visa interview. You should however be able to talk about who will be sponsoring you and why they will sponsor you. The consualr officer must believe that the offer to sponsor is genuine.

Ankit Agrawal:On what all basis does the American embassy grant the student visa? Most of the students , even though all their documents are complete are not granted the visa.

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:Your question mentions that the "documents are complete" - but the Consular Officers are not basing their decision on the documents. The Officers base their decisions on the answers given by the applicant in the interview and on if these answers are credible or not. Many people think that the documents are very important, but this is not true. What is important is the applicant's ability to credibly respond to questions in the interview.

prabhat K Tiwari:what are the date of interview there a Dec and Jan? and also to apply for VISA?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:We give out interview dates on a first come, first serve basis. If you need an expedited appointment, you can request one by emailing consktm@state.gov and giving the reason why you need an earlier appointment. We will expedite your appointment if you have a good reason and we are able to do so.

ali: Is it necessary to change the document after getting rejected once?

US EMBASSY PAS: There are only 2 required documents: 1) original I-20 and 2) academic documents. All of the other documents, including financial documents, are not required and are considered supplement to what is discussed in the student visa interview. However, all documents must be genuine and credible. If you change the documents after receiving a rejection, the Consular Officer will not believe that the documents are credible. No documents should be created solely for the purpose of the student visa interview. We take document fraud very seriously – if we determine a document to be fraudulent or falsified, we will inform the applicant that they can pick up the documents and their passport from the police.

Aakash Lamichanne Gurung: can we get a plus point from the scholarship

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: A good scholarship helps demonstrate student intent and the ability to pay. That is a plus.

laxman: instead of regular income, I have shown my property, then is that considerable for study cost

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: Property is not income. Unless you have recently sold property with the intention of using the proceeds to fund your education, the consular officer will not take the property into account when calculating whether or not your family has enough income to support your studies in the U.S.

sachin: on what basis does an interviewer judge whether an applicant is capable to study in USA and can they just judge within 5 min?

CONSULAR OFFICER 4: The Consular Officers do not judge if an applicant is “capable” to study in the United States. This is not a requirement for receiving the student visa. Rather, the Consular Officer must judge 3 things: 1) if the applicant has the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) if the applicant has the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) if the applicant has credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. Consular Officers are trained to be able to make this determination in the span of a short visa interview. However, it is also in the applicant’s best interest to come prepared to demonstrate these three points.

nabin aryal: on what basis does an interviewer judge whether an applicant is capable to study in USA and can they just judge within 5 min?

CONSULAR OFFICER 4: The Consular Officers do not judge if an applicant is “capable” to study in the United States. This is not a requirement for receiving the student visa. Rather, the Consular Officer must judge 3 things: 1) if the applicant has the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) if the applicant has the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) if the applicant has credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. Consular Officers are trained to be able to make this determination in the span of a short visa interview. However, it is also in the applicant’s best interest to come prepared to demonstrate these three points.

sujata: how much funds do we have to show for student visa for pursuing Undergraduate studies in United States and what are supporting documents do you need?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: You need to show credible evidence of income to support your entire course of study. It is up to you to provide the evidence, but it must be legitimate documents. If fake documents are presented, we will know and turn them over to the police.

dipendra 2: is there anything like you should have deposits in the major bank??

US EMBASSY PAS: Thank you for asking this question! Very often we hear students insist that due to their "bank balance", they are qualified for the visa. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to clear this up: there is NO rule regarding the bank balance. First off, Consular Officers are not looking to see if the applicant has money in the bank. Rather, they are looking to see if the applicant has credible sources of income that will continue to create income throughout the entire length of the applicant's education. Additionally, no bank documents or financial documents are required for the student visa interview. The only required documents are 1) the original I-20 and 2) academic transcripts. Any financial documents that are submitted are considered supplemental documents to support what is discussed in the interview. If financial documents are submitted, they will be evaluated to determine if they are credible and real documents. If they are found to be fake or falsified documents, the applicant will be informed that they can pick up their documents and passport from the police.

Raju Shrestha: is it ok if i submit only bank balance certificate during interview?
CONSULAR OFFICER 1: Yes. BUT, make sure it is a real document.

avijit pandey: I have a sister currently studying at USA and my father has sponsored her and now I am applying for f1 visa too and my uncle as well as my father is sponsoring me, will there be any problem for me?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: This is not a problem. However, you should be able to explain in your interview all sources of income that will help pay for your schooling and why your uncle would sponsor you

laxman: if i have sufficient property for study, then i will eligible for credible income for paying study fee?

CONSULAR OFFICER 4: You must be able to show that you have the income to support the school. Property is not income.

tsering: how should we convince to the embassy that my father's friend in us is willing to pay for my education

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: This is up to you - there is no one way to convince the Consular Officer. However, you must be able to talk about WHY your father's friend wants to pay for your college education. All American college educations are very expensive and it is often not credible that a non-immediate family member wants to spend this much money on someone else. Thus, if your father's friend truly wants to pay for your education, you must be able to credibly explain "why".

vyotsana: Also I got a mail from my university that SAT is not required and they do not provide any scholarship from SAT or any other academic score. They take a certain test on our arrival and that's what gives us scholarship. Can we afford to study in USA (both of us). My sister has scholarship of \$5000 per year and earns \$130 per week from her student work. The tuition fee is \$17000 per year.

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: In order to qualify for the visa, you must have a credible source of income to pay for the course of study. It cannot be contingent on qualifying for a scholarship after you arrive because you don't know if you will receive it when you are applying for the visa.

avijit pandey: do the students having good academic background get plus point during the interview?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: A good academic background does indeed help show student intent. As does choosing a good university.

dipendra 2:Respected sir, my query isis there any criteria like i should have my deposits in the major banksbecause my parents have deposits in the co-operative financial instutionso is there any criteria that i should have bank deposits.

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:No, there is no criteria that you need to have bank documents - no financial documents are required and there are no rules or regulations regarding which documents you submit. We will look at any document that you want to show us. However, please keep in mind that ALL documents must be REAL. If we find fraudulent or falsified documents, there are serious consequences for the applicant.

Nimu Regmi:I would also like to know what are the documents that the embassy requires during the interview?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:You need the I-20 form from the school that you are accepted to in the US, credible evidence that you have sources of funding for the entire course of study and be able to describe why you are pursuing these studies.

Prabesh Lal Joshi:People say that their visa will be rejected if they have relatives in United States thinking that the candidate will not return to their home country even after completing the education. Is it true?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5:This is not true. Every case is different, so please be honest about whether or not you have relatives studying or living in the U.S. -if the consular officer finds you are lying, even about a small thing, your interview will be over and you will not receive a visa.

Shekhar Dhungana:I want to go to USA for my pilot training in ultra light aircraft(not the fixed wing).I do have a job guarantee.how can i apply for the visa sir?and sir those types of training are provided by a single instructor in his own airfield so how can i believe those instructors?

US EMBASSY PAS:For pilot training, you want to apply for an M1 visa. The requirements for an M1 visa are very similar to applying for an F1 visa. You need to demonstrate that you have 1) intent to be a real student in the pilot training program in the US, 2) intent to depart the US upon completion of your program and 3) credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the training.

Raju Shrestha:all documents are original academic,property all then what is the main reason behind visa reject?

CONSULAR OFFICER 4:There are three requirements for a student visa. The applicant must demonstrate that they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. Just because your documents are original does not mean that you have convinced the officer of your intent to study or your intent to return to Nepal.

tsering:how can i demonstrate them that i have the intent to study?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:Have good, detailed answers about what you want to study, why, and why you chose that academic program. Don't listen to what the consultants tell you (that only damages your case) and answer the questions you are asked thoroughly and thoughtfully.

Jay:what is the minimum score in GRE for postgraduate study in US

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:there is no minimum score for the GRE. It is up to the school to decide whether they accept you or not. Obviously, the higher the score, the easier it is to be accepted.

puspa neupane:sir i just wanna know that if we have good document then why the student is rejected

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: Consular Officers do not base their decisions on documents. This is why we have student visa interviews - to be able to interview the applicants to determine if they qualify. It is not a document review and the documents are only there to support what the student says in the interview. Most likely, even with good documents, the student visa applicant was refused because they were not able to demonstrate - in the interview - that they qualify for the visa.

puspa neupane: sir i've done my diploma level in pharmacy and i want to get my degree and get back to my motherland and serve my people but i was rejected for visa. Does my subject matter for my visa?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: Your chosen major or subject of study has no bearing on whether or not you are qualified for a visa.

sushila luitel 2: how much GPA is required for Cambridge A level student to study in USA is 1.5 enough

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: There is no minimum GPA to qualify for a visa to study in the US. It is up to the school to decide whether they accept you or not. Obviously, the higher the score, the easier it is to be accepted.

Archana: hi i have got a DV to US so do i need to take TOEFL?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: Every American university has their own requirements for admission so you will need to contact the university to see if they require TOEFL or not. It is not a requirement for the student visa, but rather for application to the university.

jyotsana: Sir, My elder sister is a undergrad student in Louisiana and I am applying for the Undergrad for this spring. She is working in the ISO as a student employee and also the president of Nepali association of the university. Will the fact that my only sister is in US be a cause for my visa rejection. My family's annual income is approximately \$60,000.

CONSULAR OFFICER 4: You will need to be able to demonstrate that your family has the income to support two full-time students in the United States.

tsering: if i have sponsor from USA what are the documents required?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: You need to provide credible evidence that you can afford the entire course of study in the US. You decide what documents are used to show that.

Laxman Yonjan: why is many student get rejected in their first attempt?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: Unfortunately, many Nepali students do not qualify for a student visa to the US. It is because they have not met either one, two or all three of the requirements: 1) to demonstrate they have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) to demonstrate they have the intent to depart the US upon completion of their studies and 3) to demonstrate that they can credibly pay for ALL of the expenses for the entire length of their education.

rohit: I have got admission to US university and awarded partial scholarship. But my parent do not have enough income to cover up my fee. But they have enough saving in bank and enough property which they want to invest on my study. So my question is do u consider my parents saving and property or they should have good income?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: Income is the most important aspect of your family's financial situation. Unless land has already been sold with the specific purpose of financing your education it will not be considered as part of your family's income. You must be able to convince the consular officer that any savings you show will be used for your education. This is very difficult to do in Nepal as inflated or fraudulent bank statements are common.

Tarani Prasad Chaudhary:I have applied for student visa 3 times but each time visa officer says my family cannot afford tuition fee. I've enough money to pay for it. If I am showing all the proofs and all my documents were genuine but still why I didn't get visa. People having low financial status also got the visa on that day. So what were the criteria that I didn't meet. You all are liars

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:You must provide credible evidence to convince the visa officer that you can afford the school in the US and that you have continuing income to be able to afford the entire course of study. We cannot compare 2 cases because maybe one school cost less, or that applicant was an excellent student and got a scholarship.

Prabesh Lal Joshi:Why do the consular officers hold our documents.

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:Consular Officers will keep all fraudulent and falsified documents - we will not return these to the applicants. All other documents may be held for a temporary time if further review or administrative processing is needed, but they will eventually be returned to the applicant.

pratyush:why do nepalese students mostly don't get visa?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:Generally because they are unable to demonstrate the 3 critical criteria (student intent, finances, and intent to return to Nepal).

kusum:What is Sevis fee?Why it is charged at the time of taking appointment to embassy(before visa confirmation)?Where this fee is used if visa to USA is refused?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:The SEVIS fee is the fee charged by the Department of Homeland Security to track student enrollment and status in the US. It is a required fee because the fees collected by the SEVIS system are used to pay for the system.

Raju Shrestha:it is necessary to submit 6 months bank statements or not during interview?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:No, this is not necessary and, in fact, many applicants have recently gotten themselves in trouble by submitting falsified bank statements showing 6 months of fake transactions. This is a bad idea! Please note that NO financial documents are required, so please do not create false documents for purposes of the visa interview.

bhawana:I have I20 with 48%scholarship and also college gave me on campus employment of 2250 also I have sufficient income to pay fees then also I was rejected and the reason they said was due to low income is that possible sir??thank u

CONSULAR OFFICER 4:This is possible. Many colleges in the United States cost over \$30,000. Even if you had a scholarship covering half the cost, being able to afford \$15,000 a year for four years is still difficult.

prabhat:will the US embassy close for Dec 25 to Jan 1?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:No, the US Embassy will only be closed on December 24, 25, 26 and December 31, January 1, and January 2. We will be conducting visa interviews on December 23 and December 30 (Thursdays - days that we normally do not conduct visa interviews) to make up for the days we are closed.

Raju Shrestha:it is necessary to get I-20 more than one university to get visa?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:No. You do however need to demonstrate that you will be a serious student and explain specifically (without consultant answers) why you chose that particular university. Your answers need to be credible.

avijit pandey:I have given a SAT exam and I have scored around 1400 so should I keep my score in my file during the interview?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: Certainly, this would be great to be included in your file as it can help you demonstrate student intent. Please note, however, that it is not required and is really up to you.

Raju Shrestha: I have seen most of girl comparison to boys get visa what was the reason?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: Whether someone is male or female has no relationship to whether they are qualified for a student visa. They must demonstrate student intent, be able to pay for it and have a plan for what they want to do after they graduate in order to qualify for a student visa.

dipendra 2: Respected sir, my query isdo i need to compulsorily give language test because the college i m applying doesn't ask for language as i m applying in technical subjects.

CONSULAR OFFICER 4: You do not need to give a language test in order to qualify for the visa. You must demonstrate the intent, finances, and intent to return to Nepal only. However, as your classes will be in English, the interview is conducted in English and there is an expectation that a legitimate student at an American University will be able to speak and understand English well enough to comprehend their classes.

kami sherpa: I found that there are lot of people who take fake documents and they still get visa how that happen

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: We are constantly improving how we detect fake documents. We are now working closely with local police and bank officials to keep this from happening in the future.

Nimu Regmi: After preparing all the documents, is it necessary to bring the audit report of bank balance and properly valuation done by a C.A? Thank you

CONSULAR OFFICER 4: There are only 2 required documents for a student visa interview: 1) the original I-20 and 2) academic transcripts. No financial documents are required and are only considered supplemental to what is discussed in the interview.

Raju Shrestha: If academic document is genuine and have good marks and also have capacity to pay tuition fee, and living expenses then why they are reject?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: They must convince the visa officer that they are a real student, have the means to pay for it and intend to depart the US after the course of study in order to qualify for a student visa. The applicant must be able to explain all of these things.

guest: Do the US Embassy does discrimination based on religion? For example 100% of people who are admitted to christian college by default get an visa. Is it so or just a rumor ?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: No. That is a terribly unfounded rumor. If you choose a Christian university you may even come under closer scrutiny and be asked very specific questions about why you chose that particular university or college. If you can't answer credibly you will not qualify.

Archana: hi i have got a DV to US so do i need to take TOEFL?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: This chat is about student visas and not DV, but no you do not need to take the TOEFL for qualify for a DV.

pradip 2: I have leave my study before 10 years due to economical reason and between this 10year I have made me much enable economically suite to study in US. So I want to know still I would able to apply?

CONSULAR OFFICER 4:One of the 3 requirements for obtaining a student visa is to demonstrate that you have the intent to go to the US and be a real student. If you have a 10 year gap in your education, you still may be able to demonstrate intent but you must be able to speak about why you want to go back to school and how this fits into your long-term plan, as this will help to demonstrate your intent.

Ghanshyam:I am currently persuing my undergraduate in the United States, the problem is I lost my passport and I am planning to come to Nepal and reapply for the visa. What documents do I need to bring? Can you give me some additional informations regarding that process?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:Please ensure that you bring all of the documents related to your lost passport - especially including a police report, if you have one. You will need to re-apply for the visa using the normal process and will also need to explain how you lost your passport.

erik:is it true that when we apply for community college its difficult to get the visa..

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:It can be unless you have very specific reasons (and answers) for why you chose a community college over a 4 year institution.

guest:Do I have to submit any essay for visa application ?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5:No. The only doumnets that youare required to submit are an I-20 and your transcripts. Any other documents are simply in support of your case. Consular officers do not have time to read essays before or during your interview, so decide whether or not it is worth your time to write one.

kami sherpa:T study in sa what documents I need from my sponser

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:You need credible evidence of being able to afford to study in the US and continuing income to be able to afford the entire course of study. You must decide what evidence is best to support.

Nimu Regmi:Will you reject students just because they don't have SAT?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5:No. SAT scores are not required.

kami sherpa:I want to study in USA, what documents I need from my sponser

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:You need credible evidence of being able to afford to study in the US and continuing income to be able to afford the entire course of study. You must decide what evidence is best to support.

sushila luitel:is there a specific site for searching college

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:No. I would recommend going to USEF (U.S. Education Foundation) in Ganeshwor. They can be of great assistance.

pradip:embassy have clearly defined they will provide visa if their will b credible sources of income to pay but students are getting rejected though they have credible income and all belonging qualites why so?

CONSULAR OFFICER 4:Income is only one of the three requirements. It is completely possible to have the income to support studying in the United States but still get rejected if you do not meet the other two criteria. The requirements are 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education.

kami sherpa: I have two sponser who want to help my study i USA,Do I have to show dccuments from both sponser or just one

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:You need credible evidence of being able to afford to study in the US and continuing income to be able to afford the entire course of study. You must decide what evidence is best to support.

Laxman Yonjan:Sir or Madam.. greetings: My parent have sufficient income and money to sponsor my education in USA. But they have kept only 3-4 lakh of their earning in their saving account. Most of their earning were invested in land purchase. Now they want to keep their earning in saving account but if I apply this time transaction period with sufficient balance will not be met. So I would like to know with recent deposit and income source documents can I apply for visa or not. Thank you..

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:To qualify for the student visa, you must demonstrate that you have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of your education. Land is typically not a source of income. If your parents have decided to sell the land to pay for your education, please bring the land sale documents. You do not need a bank balance showing a transaction period - this is not a requirement and recently we have found many students submitting falsified bank documents showing 6 months of transactions - this is not required and it is not a good idea to submit fake documents.

guest:So to prove this " they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US" ?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: demonstrate this through past performance as a student (your grades) and your ability to talk about the program / school you have chosen at your interview

kami sherpa:What is best chance to get student visa for study in USA

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:To be a real student and to be accpeted by a school that you can afford to attend and to be able to talk about why you want to study in the US, and not just live or work in the US.

Raju Shrestha:I have applied for MBA but my bachelor degree is in engineering in electronics and communication. What will be the strong point if visa counselor asked why you want to study MBA specially in USA?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:You will need to answer honestly and convincingly as to why you want to switch courses to study an MBA.

tsering:what will be the plus point for getting the student visa

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:To be a real student and to be accpeted by a school that you can afford to attend and to be able to talk about why you want to study in the US, and not just live or work in the US.

bipila:how is the F2 visa interview carried out for a child below 5 years

CONSULAR OFFICER 5:F2 Visas are for spouses of students in the U.S. a 5 year old child is probably an F-3 (the child of a student). A guardian should accompany the child and be able to explain the situation for the consular officer. The child must be present but will not be expected to talk about the situation.

Ramona:Initially I came to US in H4 visa and I had to change my visa status to F1. On my passport the H4 visa stamp has expired on November 10, 2010 however, I do have approval notice for change of status from H4 to F1 from USCIS. My question is, in this case, if I come to Nepal for my research studies and want to come back to US to complete my remaining studies, do I have to get new visa or should I get new visa or is the USCIS approvl notice and my valid I-20 is enough to re-enter US? Thank you for your time.

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:You should get a new visa with your F1 status.

tsering:is some is sponsoring us for our studies from us what are the documnets required from the sponsor

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:You need credible evidence of being able to afford to study in the US and continuing income to be able to afford the entire course of study. You must decide what evidence is best to support.

pradip:i have rejected before when i applied to communtiy college for second bachlor degree but now if i apply for master degree at universites what are the possiblities of getting vis?

CONSULAR OFFICER 4:If you can clearly demonstrate that you meet the three requirements, you will qualify for the visa. Be prepared to answer why you applied the first time, and what you have done since.

tsering:how can we convince to the embassy that my sponsor from us will sponsor me?

CONSULAR OFFICER 5:be able to clearly and convincingly eplain WHY this person would pay for your education. Be honest in your answers.

tsering:will there be a problem if our middle name is missing in our i-20 and all other information are correct?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:The information on the I-20 should match the information on your passport. It should include your entire correct name.

MODERATOR:We only have a few more minutes. The consular officers will continue to answer questions that have been submitted and the entire transcript (including questions answered offline) will be posted on our web site in a couple of days.

Uttam:If I get visa for Spring semester can i enter US for fall semester?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:You will need to get a new I-20. Depending on if you change schools and/or SEVIS numbers, you may need a new visa. The visa must match the I-20.

Prabesh Lal Joshi:Hello I' m Prabesh La Joshi

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:Hi Prabesh La Joshi. This is the consular section.

Red:If one is accepted to a college for Fall 2011, can he/she apply for VISA now?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2:Yes, you may apply for the visa now. But, you may not enter the US until 30 days before your classes are scheduled to start.

bipila:Can a person with F2 visa get enrolled in any university in US during his/her dependent status?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3:No, you need to adjust to F1 status to study.

tsering 2:will my father;s income from th trekking office will be enough for my study in usa?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1:That's impossible to know without knowing how much the tution and living expenses are. Make sure to convert the I20 figues from dollars into rupees so you know how much you need. Often times students have no idea how much the tuition costs in rupees.

ujwol maharjan:does providing a us visa depends upon the consulars attitude

CONSULAR OFFICER 4:No, all officers adjudicate the visa based on the law and the same three criteria.

jitesh:if a student have weak speaking power no matter whether its native or foreign language,then that student is considered not eligible because he doesnt speak even though his writing power is good

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: To qualify for a student visa you need to be able to talk about your situation

guest: So why should I show the intent to return to Nepal? What if I want to work there after my undergraduate?

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: The law states that to receive a student visa, you must have the intent to depart the US after you complete your studies. A student visa is not an immigrant visa or a work visa.

noni pradhan: I'm the only daughter to my parents. So if the embassy doubts on it then how can I go in to prove it though I've proved papers

CONSULAR OFFICER 4: How many siblings there are in your family is not relevant to whether or not you qualify for the visa.

guest: What is the average time you talk to an applicant?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: It really depends on the circumstances, but generally between 2-6 minutes.

tsering 2: If I have changed my university for my second apply will this cause a problem??

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: Not as long as you are able to explain why you changed your mind and why this is now your first choice

Archana: IS TOEFL MANDATORY IN ALL US COLLEGES?

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: TOEFL is not required. Not sure about TOEFL. Is that related to TOEFL? Sense of humor is recommended.

MODERATOR: One more minute!

Diganta: Would you mind telling me one thing how an applicant can assure to your consular that he/she return after completion of his studies because I think that no one gives answers that they will stay there after completion of their studies.

CONSULAR OFFICER 2: One way to demonstrate your intent to depart the US is to have a reasonable and well thought out long-term plan that includes departing the US after completing your studies.

avijit pandey: My sister is currently studying at USA and my father has sponsored her and now I'm also applying for F1 visa and my uncle as well as my father is sponsoring me. Will there be any problem for me??

CONSULAR OFFICER 4: Not if you can demonstrate that you meet the 3 requirements. But it is difficult for most families to afford one college tuition, so affording more than one will be more difficult for some families.

avijit pandey: Does luck matter doing the interview?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: No. Not at all. It's NOT a lottery.

pratyush: What does the US government intend

CONSULAR OFFICER 5: The US government intends to issue visas to qualified students.

MODERATOR: Thank you for participating in today

guest: So will the consular interviewing us will be a Nepali Citizen or an American?

CONSULAR OFFICER 1: American.

CONSULAR OFFICER 3: Thank you for Moderating!

MODERATOR: Thank you for participating in today's web chat. Consular officers will continue to answer questions we have already received but didn't have time to answer during the live chat.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ANSWERED BY THE CONSULAR SECTION AFTER THE WEB CHAT

Sudan: I have finished my bachelor degree in Travel and Tourism, i would like to apply for Master Degree in Tourism in USA..could you please let me know how can i find out the good college and what to do for my further process?

CONSULAR OFFICER: I would recommend visiting USEF (the United States Education Foundation: www.fulbrightnepal.org.np/) in Ganeshwor. They can assist with your college planning.

guest: You have not yet answered: Will student loan from a bank in nepal be credible sources of income given that my sponsor can easily pay the money for loan ?

CONSULAR OFFICER: If you get a loan from a credible bank in Nepal we would consider that as a credible source of income.

bhawana: how can i prove that i am real student 1) to demonstrate they have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) to demonstrate they have the intent to depart the US upon completion of their studies and 3) to demonstrate that they can credibly pay for ALL of the expenses for the entire length of their education.....how can i prove all these

CONSULAR OFFICER: By having good grades, being accepted by a good school and being able to talk convincingly about your academic program and why you have chosen the university or college you selected. The worst way is by going to a consultant and reciting what they have told you. Skip the consultant and do your own research.

guest: So I can immediately apply for visa but not leave NEpal till 30 days of class study ? is it true ?

CONSULAR OFFICER: The important date to remember is that you need to arrive in the U.S. before your I-20 expires. Your I-20 lists a date on it and you need to enter the U.S. before that deadline expires. You can apply for a student visa up to six months before you enter the U.S.

Shekhar Dhungana 2: do i need I20 for applying for M1 visa sir

CONSULAR OFFICER: Yes. You need an I-20 for an M1.

guest: So what if there are two siblings apply for the visa at some what same time ?

CONSULAR OFFICER: That is fine. The important issue is that you are able to show that you have sources of income that can support not just one, but two students in the U.S. simultaneously.

Ghanshyam: i applied for the student visa and was rejected on the grounds that my family could not afford my education and the second time I took the same document and I was given the visa? I never got the reason why it happened?

CONSULAR OFFICER: Without knowing the specifics of your case I can't answer that. It is likely that something changed during your interview that convinced the Consular Officer that you had intent and funds.

shyamgurung57@yahoo.com: I just completed SLC that mean 10 pass, so can I apply for student visa for USA.

CONSULAR OFFICER: The main requirement is acceptance from a college or university in the U.S., along with an I-20. It is doubtful you could get college or university admission with just an SLC.

bipila: How can I change my F2 status to F1?

CONSULAR OFFICER: F2 is for spouses of students. You cannot change status unless you also become a student.

sup: is applying for student visa along with dependents lessen the probability of getting visa?

CONSULAR OFFICER: You would need to show adequate financial resources for your dependents and overcome a higher hurdle for the presumption of immigrant intent if you were applying with dependents.

asdf: I want to apply for F1 visa for myself and F2 for my spouse together. Do we need separate documents for both of us or do my documents also works for both? And is it obligatory to put the spouse educational documents or is it optional since spouse is not allowed to study?

CONSULAR OFFICER: It is not obligatory for your spouse to bring their educational documents. To qualify for an F-2 Visa your spouse must demonstrate that they have a real marriage with you and there is enough money to support them while they are in the U.S. Pictures of your wedding and an explanation of how your spouse will be supported financially may help you support your spouse's case.

Laxman Yonjan: if bank transaction is not that important then why my friends are rejected because of it?

CONSULAR OFFICER: Each case is unique. We take fraudulent documents very seriously and if we find that a document is fake you will not be issued a visa. Legitimate bank transaction history over a long period of time that clearly demonstrates a credible source of income can be helpful – but they must be real.

Suraj Deuja: Dear Consular, I am thinking of applying to US university for my undergraduate study. I took the required tests; my SAT scores are very good and TOEFL is superb. I want to study electrical

engineering and get an MBA degree later. I chose to study those subjects because I wish to enter into the IT sector of Nepal. Will I get a visa to study those subjects?

CONSULAR OFFICER: The subject you choose to study does not affect your eligibility for a visa. However, no matter what subject you choose to study you should be able to explain in your interview WHY you chose that major and what you plan to do after you graduate.

Sunita Gurung: What should I do to transfer my SEVIS Fee to the university which I have applied now? As I have paid the sevis fee for another university

CONSULAR OFFICER: You only need to pay the SEVIS fee one time.

Prabesh Lal Joshi: If we pay all the tuition fees in advance to US University then should we again present the financial documents?

CONSULAR OFFICER: It is extremely uncommon to pay all tuition fees in advance (for an entire course of study, meaning, until graduation) in advance. You are never required to present financial documents.

sushila luitel: is a certificate in the field of sports a plus point for getting visas

CONSULAR OFFICER: No, it will count the same as having a certificate in any other subject. However, if you were studying full time and getting good grades that would be a plus point because it helps demonstrate that you are a real and serious student.

bhawana: having annual income sufficient is there any problem to get visa ??

CONSULAR OFFICER: You will still need to demonstrate that you intend to be a real student in America. You demonstrate this through your past performance as a student and your ability to describe why you chose the school / program that you have chosen.

Derick: Why only Nepalese F1 students have to pay \$200 visa issuance fee, once they are granted F1 visa?

CONSULAR OFFICER: This is called a reciprocity fee. The government of Nepal charges US students who study in Nepal a \$200 fee. The U.S. government reciprocates by charging Nepalese students who are qualified to study in America the same fee.

avijit pandey: do luck matter during the interview?

CONSULAR OFFICER: Luck is not going to matter nearly as much as being honest, credible and having reasoned, well-thought-out answers.

bhawana: i have i20 with 48% scholarship and also college gave me on campus employment of 2250 also i have sufficient income to pay fees then also i was rejected and the reason they said was due to low income is that possible sir??thank u

CONSULAR OFFICER: Even with a 45% scholarship and on campus employment school tuition and living fees can be prohibitively expensive. The consular officer needs to be convinced that your family has sufficient income to support the remaining costs.

noni pradhan: i have received i20 from 1 univ n the other 2 r still waiting .will it cause any problem to me in the interview??

CONSULAR OFFICER: When you come to interview you should have decided which school you will be attending. You must attend the school that is on the I-20 form when you arrive in the US.

guest: When should I apply for VISA ? I mean how many after I got i-20 ?

CONSULAR OFFICER: We recommend that you apply for the visa 120 days before your school start date to allow enough time to have the visa processed and prepare for travel. However, you may not arrive in the US more than 30 days before your classes begin.

avijit pandey: I have given IELTS test instead of toefl so will this create any problem for me?

CONSULAR OFFICER: We do not involve ourselves in your school selection. You will need to determine if that is a problem for the schools you apply to on your own. We only adjudicate the visas. For help determining which school is right for you we highly recommend you visit the USEF, United States Educational Foundation in Kathmandu. Their website is: www.fulbrightnepal.org.np

tsering 2: last time i told the embassy that after i complete my study in business i will return back to nepal and look after my father's trekking business,but they denied the visa,why?

CONSULAR OFFICER: Intent to return to Nepal is only one of the three criteria that must be met. Additionally, your intent to return to Nepal must be credible to the consular officer at the time of the interview.

laxman: if i have sold property then sufficient ammount cash will deposited in bank,is that considerable for financial source?

CONSULAR OFFICER: Simply showing documents that show that you have enough money to pay for the education is not enough to receive a student visa. The student visa interview is not a document review, it is an interview, so the applicant must be prepared to respond to the Consular Officer's questions in the interview. The financial documents are only supplemental documents to support what is discussed in the interview. The Consular Officer must determine if the sources of income discussed in the interview are credible and able to cover the entire cost of the education (not just one year.)

bhawana: my brother is in US but my maternal uncle sponsor him and im only the child under my parents plus my anti is going to sponsoring me now would i be eligible for F1 visa and i have sufficient annual income

CONSULAR OFFICER: Again, the ability to pay is only one of the three criteria by which we issue or refuse visas. Simply having the financial support is not enough to qualify for the visa. Those 3 criteria are: 1)

have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education.

rohit: Yes I have genuine bank document.so how can I convince you that the saving will be invested for my study?

CONSULAR OFFICER: First off, Consular Officers are not looking to see if the applicant has money in the bank. Rather, they are looking to see if the applicant has credible sources of income that will continue to create income throughout the entire length of the applicant's education. Additionally, no bank documents or financial documents are required for the student visa interview. The only required documents are 1) the original I-20 and 2) academic transcripts. Any financial documents that are submitted are considered supplemental documents to support what is discussed in the interview. If financial documents are submitted, they will be evaluated to determine if they are credible and real documents. If they are found to be fake or falsified documents, the applicant will be informed that they can pick up their documents and passport from the police.

guest: So i bring each and every certificates I got for the interview ?

CONSULAR OFFICER: I am not sure which certificates you are referring to. There are only 2 required documents: 1) original I-20 and 2) academic documents. All of the other documents, including financial documents, are not required and are considered supplement to what is discussed in the student visa interview.

noni pradhan: what is the main reason behind rejection of visa though all the requirements are fulfilled??

CONSULAR OFFICER: The applicant must demonstrate that they 1) have the intent to be a real student in the US, 2) have the intent to depart the US after they complete their studies and 3) have credible sources of income to pay for the entire cost of the education. If you have already been refused, you must demonstrate that your situation has significantly and credibly changed since your last visa interview.

guest: Do have have to submit any essays for visa application ?

CONSULAR OFFICER: No essays are required. The only required documents are 1) the original I-20 and 2) academic transcripts. Any financial documents that are submitted are considered supplemental documents to support what is discussed in the interview.

prabhat: I have the problem of delay of I-20. What is the appropriate solution?

CONSULAR OFFICER: You can not schedule the visa interview until you have an I-20.

bipila: If an applicant for F2 visa interview cannot speak english, how is the interview carried out?

CONSULAR OFFICER: The interview will be in Nepali. Most of the Consular Officers speak Nepali and we are also able to use interpreters, as needed.

Sunita Gurung: I applied student visa during this fall session and I was denied. Again I applied for this spring session. So do I require to pay my sevis fee again as I had applied to different university?

CONSULAR OFFICER: No, you do not have to pay the SEVIS fee again - you can transfer it to your new school.

Binod Katuwal: i have heard that thereis less probabilty of getting admitted for Masters Degree in united states ?is that true?

CONSULAR OFFICER: This is not true. However, Consular Officers are going to expect students for Masters Degree programs to be well-prepared for their interview, including having a well-thought-out, reasoned plan as to why they want the degree and why they will depart the US upon completion of their studies.

Raju Shrestha: if u don't look property than how did u decide we got enough money to pay tuition fee and living fee?

CONSULAR OFFICER: We do not base our decisions on the documents; we base our decisions on the visa interview. The documents are only there to support what is said in the interview. So, we will look at your documents, but it is up to you to be prepared to be able to speak about your credible income sources.

guest: what documents are required for f1 visa restamping?

CONSULAR OFFICER: The same documents that are required for any F1 visa applicant: 1) the original I-20 and 2) academic transcripts (including transcripts of any time spent in the US.)

Raju Shrestha: what had happen when documents are submitted during interview?

CONSULAR OFFICER: We review all of the documents prior to the interview. We have a team of experts that are good at detecting fradulent and falsified documents. But, please keep in mind that we do not make our decisions based on documents. We make our decisions based on the interview.